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DCI/IC/1138/75

3 March 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/DCI/IC

SUBJECT : Centralized Processing of Nuclear
Sensor Data

REFERENCE : IC-75-1357, 19 February 1975

1. As outlined in reference, an ad hoc JAEIC Working Group concluded that it is not considered desirable to process nuclear radiation sensor data at a central facility. Their reasons are, in our opinion, somewhat superficial.

2. Assuming that the DIA does procure some sensors from LASL, they make no provision for processing the data therefrom beyond the first year after delivery. Unless the devices are expendable or nearly so, this seems rather short-sighted inasmuch as the DIA has no processing facility of its own and will need one after the first year of contractor operation.

3. The CIA's problem with such a central facility, while apparently real, does not seem of sufficient magnitude to warrant expenditure of funds necessary to create what will be essentially a duplicative capability.

4. A discussion with Bobby Inman clarified the fact that his offer for Navy processing of this data was simply a suggestion to share his capability for reasons of economy. He did not and does not wish to make it a contentious issue, and he has instructed his JAEIC representative not to press the offer to the extent of making it a major issue. It is worth noting, however, that his offer was made only in consideration of CIA collection. At the time of the offer, he was not aware of DIA plans to develop a collection capability.

5. In view of information developed in the JAEIC Ad Hoc Working Group study, I recommend that the study be continued in order to:

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- a. Determine the estimated costs of developing interface equipment and software required for Navy processing of CIA data (see para. 3 of Working Group Report).
- b. Determine the same for processing of DIA data beyond the first year of contractor operation (see para. 4 of Working Group Report).
- c. Determine the actual feasibility of providing raw data for processing (compartmented as necessary) to a central processing facility (see para. 5 of Working Group Report).
- d. Present trade-off costs of central processing (by Navy) against alternate requirement for development of dedicated processing facilities by CIA and DIA.



Rear Admiral, USN (Ret.)
Acting Chief, Collection
and Processing Assessment
Division

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